

in the Latitudes 48° and 49°, in consequence of considerable Presents, the Promise of a *free and exclusive Trade with the Natives of the District*, and also his Permission to build any Store-houses, or other Edifices, which he might judge necessary; that he also acquired the same Privilege of exclusive Trade from *Tatouche*, the Chief of the Country bordering on the Straits of *Juan de Fuca*, and purchased from him a Tract of Land within the said Strait, which One of your Memorialist's Officers took Possession of in the King's Name, calling the same *Tatouche*, in honour of the Chief.

That the *Iphigenia*, in her Progress to the Southward, also visited several Ports, and in consequence of Presents to the Chiefs of the Country, her Commander had Assurances given to him of not only a free Access, but of an exclusive Trade upon that Coast, no other European Vessel having been there before her.

That your Memorialist, on the 23d of September, having collected a Cargo of Furs, proceeded in the *Felice* to China, leaving the *Iphigenia* and the *North West America* in Nootka Sound, with Orders to winter at the Sandwich Islands, and to return to the Coast in the Spring. That your Memorialist arrived in China early in the Month of December, where he sold his Cargo, and also the Ship *Felice*.

That a few Days after your Memorialist's Arrival in China, the Ships *Prince of Wales* and *Princess Royal*, fitted out from the Port of London by Messrs. John and Cadman Etches and Co. came to Canton from a trading Voyage on the North West Coast of America; and your Memorialist finding that they had embarked in this Commerce under Licences granted to them by the East India and South Sea Companies, which would not expire until the Year 1790, and apprehending at the same Time that the Trade would suffer by a Competition, he and his Partners associated themselves with the said Messrs. Etches and Co. and a formal Agreement was executed in consequence between your Memorialist and Mr. John Etches, then Supra Cargo of the Two Ships, making a joint Stock of all the Vessels and Property employed in that Trade; and under that Firm they purchased a Ship, which had been built at Calcutta, and called her *The Argonaut*.

That the *Prince of Wales* having been chartered to load Teas for the East India Company, soon after returned to England, and the *Princess Royal* and *Argonaut* were ordered by your Memorialist to sail for the Coast of America, under the Command of Mr. James Colnett, to whom the Charge of all the Concerns of the Company on that Coast had been committed.

Mr. Colnett was directed to fix his Residence at Nootka Sound, and, with that View, to erect a substantial House on the Spot which your Memorialist had purchased in the preceding Year, as will appear by a Copy of his Instructions hereunto annexed.

That the *Princess Royal* and *Argonaut*, loaded with Stores and Provisions of all Descriptions, with Articles estimated to be sufficient for the Trade for Three Years, and a Vessel on Board in Frame, of about 30 Tons Burthen, left China accordingly in the Months of April and May 1789. They had also on Board, in Addition to their Crews, several Artificers of different Professions, and near 70 Chinese, who intended to become Settlers on the American Coast, in the Service and under the Protection of the associated Company.

That on the 24th of April 1789, the *Iphigenia* returned to Nootka Sound, and that the *North West America* reached that Place a few Days after; that they found, on their Arrival in that Port, Two American Vessels, which had wintered there, one of them was called the *Columbia*, the other the *Washington*; that on the 29th of the same Month, the *North West America* was dispatched to the Northward to trade, and also to explore the Archipelago of St. Lazarus.

That on the 6th of May, the *Iphigenia* being then at Anchor in Nootka Sound, a Spanish Ship of War, called the *Princesa*, commanded by Don Estwan Joseph Martinez, mounting 26 Guns, which had sailed from the Port of San Blas, in the Province of Mexico, Anchored in Nootka Sound, and was joined on the 13th by a Spanish Snow of 16 Guns, called the *San Carlos*, which Vessel had also sailed from the Port of San Blas, loaded with Cannon and other warlike Stores.

That from the Time of the Arrival of the *Princesa* until the 14th of May, mutual Civilities passed between Captain Douglas and the Spanish Officers, and even Supplies were obtained from Don Martinez for the Use of the Ship; but on that Day he (Captain Douglas) was ordered on Board the *Princesa*, and, to his great Surprise, was informed by Don Martinez, that he had the King's Orders to seize all Ships and Vessels he might find upon that Coast, and that he (the Commander of the *Iphigenia*) was then his Prisoner; that Don Martinez thereupon instructed his Officers to take possession of the *Iphigenia*, which they accordingly did, in the Name of his Catholic Majesty, and the Officers and Crew of that Ship were immediately conveyed as Prisoners on Board the Spanish Ships, where they were put in Irons, and were otherwise ill-treated.

That as soon as the *Iphigenia* had been seized, Don Martinez took possession of the Lands belonging to your Memorialist, on which his temporary Habitation before mentioned had been erected, hoisting thereon the Standard of Spain, and performing such Ceremonies as your Memorialist understands are usual on such Occasions, declaring at the same Time, that all the Lands comprized between Cape Horn and the 60th Degree of North Latitude did belong